

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An information acquiring apparatus comprising:
a database, having updatable content containing information relating to a media,
searchable by key data generated as a function of information stored at a predetermined place of
said media, said content including an address of a server relating to the media;

means for obtaining from the server, through the Internet, an address of a website
relating to the media, said website address being different than said server address;

means for accessing, through the Internet, the website at the address of the
website obtained from the server; and

means for updating said content of the database at any time through the Internet
by connecting said database to said address of the website obtained from the server;

wherein a user can specify a location of another database having said updatable
content searchable by said key data, said another database being different from said database
included in said information acquiring apparatus.

21. (Previously presented) The information acquiring apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising means for inquiring a user, before obtaining the address of the website, whether an access to the server is acceptable.

22. (Previously presented) The information acquiring apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said key data is generated by calculating a portion of index data of said media in a predetermined manner.

23. (Previously presented) The information acquiring apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the website provides a service so that a user can directly purchase another media or goods relating to the media via the website.

24. (Currently Amended) An information acquiring method comprising the steps of:

providing a database, having updatable content containing information relating to a media, searchable by key data generated as a function of information stored at a predetermined place of said media, said content including an address of a server relating to the media;

accessing, through the Internet, the server based on the address stored in said database;

obtaining from the server, through the Internet, an address of a website relating to the media, said website address being different than said server address;

accessing, through the Internet, the website at the address obtained from the server; and

updating said content of the database at any time through the Internet by
connecting said database to said address of the website obtained from the server;
wherein a user can specify a location of another database having said updatable
content searchable by said key data, said another database being different from said database.

25. (Previously presented) The information acquiring method according to
claim 24, further comprising the step of inquiring a user whether the access to the server is
acceptable before connecting the server.

26. (Previously presented) The information acquiring method according to
claim 24, wherein said key data is generated by calculating a portion of index data of said media
in a predetermined manner.

27. (Previously presented) The information acquiring method according to
claim 24, wherein the website provides a service so that a user can directly purchase another
media or goods relating to the media via the website.

28. (Currently Amended) A program stored on a computer readable medium,
to be executed in a computer, the program comprising instructions for updating content of a
database, said content containing information relating to a media, searchable by key data
generated as a function of information stored at a predetermined place of said media, said content
including an address of a server relating to the media, said instructions being executable for
performing the steps of:

accessing, through the Internet, the server based on the address stored in said database;

obtaining from the server, through the Internet, an address of a website relating to the media, said website address being different than said server address;

accessing, through the Internet, the website at the address obtained from the server; and

updating said content of the database at any time through the Internet by connecting said database to said address of the website obtained from the server;

wherein a user can specify a location of another database having said updatable content searchable by said key data, said another database being different from said database.

29. (Previously presented) The program according to claim 28, further comprising the step of inquiring a user whether the access to the server is acceptable before connecting the server.

30. (Previously presented) The program according to claim 28, wherein said key data is generated by calculating a portion of index data of said media in a predetermined manner.

31. (Previously presented) The program according to claim 28, wherein the website provides a service so that a user can directly purchase another media or goods relating to the media via the website.